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FROCKS FROM PARIS.

The New Fashions Shown in All Their Beauty.

A NOTABLE SEASON FOR DRESS.

Achievements of Past Years Surpassed This Spring.

The Costumes of Light Materials Charming as Well as Elaborate-Novel Mingling of Materials-A False Appearance of Simplicity Produced by Lavish Handwork-The Nets, Mousselines and Feature of Summer Fashlons-Color Vagarles of the Year--Lace Still Supreme-The Pretty Spring Wraps.

Openings come thick and fast at this season and the postmen stagger under the weight of the cards sent out by the exclusive firms to the women whose names are on their lists. Not a morning passes without breakfast table temptation in the shape of an assortment of these announcement cards, and the woman who loves shopping for shopping's sake or is actually in search of spring gowns and coats and hats

silk set in the filmy batiste with elaborate open work. Another model in cream lace over chiffon was trimmed in white cloth. Linen gowns, too, bore cloth trim-ming, and, on the other hand, linen ap-peared as trimming for cloth, lace and even for mousseline.

Daintiest of all the models were the lingerie, silk mousseline, chiffon and net frocks. The new modes lend themselves particularly well to development in these thin stuffs, and the materials themselves are beautiful beyond description.

Handwork in all its forms is lavished upon these frocks, yet they retain a most misleading air of sweet simplicity and do not jump at the eyes as did many of the modes of past seasons. The general impression produced is one of picturesque grace and harmony, of soft flowing lines and delicate tints.

It is not until one examines the delectable whole that one realizes how much art and time have gone into the making. Multitudes of fine hand tucks, open work, inset lace, shirrings, are on the fine lingerie

One has its blouse and skirt yoke barred off into inch squares by the tiniest Lingerie Gowns-Fichu an Impertant of tucks. Another has for its striking feature a sunflower design, the flower centre being formed of closely bunched French knots, the petal effect given by radiating lines of infinitesimal hand tucks in the material.

Nearly related to the lingerie frocks are bose of sheerest white silk, finer and more transparent than the old-time China silk. yet slightly differing in texture from the popular silk voile. This material is more durable than the silk mousselines and chiffons, gives an exceedingly simple effect and may be handled exactly like the batistes, fine lawns, mulles, &c. Made up over a delicate tint or in all white it may be fashfoned into an ideal summer frock.

The printed mousselines, chiffons

portant item of the summer wardrobe, and the wise woman will have at least one or two of them in finest white lingerie and lace. Such a fichu, if well shaped and exquisitely made by hand, will give distinction to even the simplest and plainest of thin summer frocks, and is in the end a most profitable investment. Importers



are showing these dainty handmade fichus for use as summer shoulder wraps, but of course the price of such an article; in-one of the exclusive shops is high, and it will pay the woman who is clever with her needle to make her own fichu.

The favored shirred skirt, with yoke of shirrings and shirrings at the knees is the goods.

The street suit takes on great variety shallow yoke, which is formed of punched-out lace with raised pattern in the familiar

grape design.

The grape is still prominent in fashionable design, but its constant repetition has grown wearisome, and the cherry and atrawberry offer a welcome variety. These two fruits are not so frequently seen in lace design as the grapes, but they flourish gayly in colored embroideries, are painted on parasols and fans, ornament hats, are seen on the embossed leather belts and

The fruit accords well with the note of red that is much in evidence in spring gowns and millinery. The Parisian woman loves a red hat, a red parasol, a red pettiocat with her neutral-hued costumes, and this season the American woman seems to accept the audacious color more enthusiastically than usual.

All red hats, though numerous, are not popular with the fastidious; but many black and white, white, gray, blue and burnt straw hats are brightened by a dash of brilliant red in flowers, fruit or velvet ribbon. Upon gowns the red usually appears as embroidery or piping or cravat. The most notable color vagary of the year is the combination of reds and purples. The fuchsia has become a prime favorite

among flowers and its colorings are closely followed by milliners and dressmakers.

Successful handling of these purples, reds and pinks requires art of no mean quality, but occasionally the results are most happy. A model gown produced by

in one is also of the lace over a full-plaited lace insertion and narrow fagotted bands blouse of obliffonette.

The favored shirred skirt, with yoke of in dark colors, with the lace dyed to match

shown in white mouseline, and the shir-rings are repeated in the upper sleeves and around the Van Dyke points of the



make the short cost is undoubtedly in the

bolero seems to be a favorite, and there are a famous Parisian house and bought by still many bloused coats with short basques many American buyers was of silk mousse-line in a red which can best be described the short lengths are gaining favor, the

Occasionally revers still assert themselves, as in the case of the white cloth frock sketched here, which has a surplice blouse folded under a high girdle, and waistcoat revers of green cloth embroidered in white and silver.

This gown embodies several of the ideas most emphasized this spring—the blouse raised to the bust curve by a high fitted girdle, the shaped sleeve and the full plaited kirt, whose plaits are not stitched flat.

Another good model is in powder blue cloth with a full plaited skirt tucked at the bottom, a plaited chiffon blouse in the same color and a deep cape with front tabs reaching below the waist. This cape is collarless but has a finishing line of white silk em-broidered in shaded blues and silver and fastens in front with straps and silver harness

A deep cape is an important feature of another gown-in lettuce green linen, this time with a blouse of filet lace and an extravagantly broad inset of the same ace on the skirt.

Linen gowns multiply astonishingly and range from the severest of shirt-waist frocks to the most elaborate of evening gowns. The use of linen for evening gowns seems incongruous, but it exists, and there are French models likely to convert a sceptic to the innovation. Little of the linen is left to show under the heavy laces and embroideries.

The separate blouse assumes vast importance with summer's coming, and though a blouse which does not match the skirt or form an integral part of a threepiece suit is not permissible with formal cilette to-day innumerable attractive louses are being made for wear under bolero jackets, without any pretence of matching the suits with which they are

All most all are unlined, from the plainest cheviot shirt waist to the chiffon blouse +although with the sheer blouses a fitted underslip is a necessity.



again, just as the modish woman had succeeded in educating herself away from them. The new models are, as a rule, embroidered, which adds a feminine touch to their severity.

Veilings of mixed black and white net are stylish and becoming.

Slippers of black brocade with tiny designs in colored roses, high heels, and jewelled buckles, are among the new footwear.

Pink and corp color in combination are concession to Louis XVI. modes and are much used by Parisian dressmakers and

Tee gowns of fine batiste or muslin, lace trimmed and lined with soft silk are to be a fad of the season.

Straws are manipulated in wonderful and fearful fashion for the purpose of spring millinery, and are so soft and flexible that they may be handled as easily as ribbon.

Flowers falling loosely in a fringe over the hair at the back, or several tiny wreaths of flowers drooping over the hair from the sides of the hat back have taken the place of last season's exaggerated cachepeigns.

broad trimmed hats and falling straight in a short curtain are exceedingly fachion-able and are picturesque upon the tall, siender girl.

Flax thread mercerized is provided in all colors for embroidery and fagot stitching upon linen frocks.

Awong the novel trimmings is a velvety ry, cut like

Another new notion is a cut-out cloth embroidery edged all around the pattern with short chenille rattail fringe.

Fringes of all kinds gain in popularity. A deep opal and brilliant fringe formed the berthe of one imported gown in white lib-

Serge has fallen into line and like all the other materials has taken on new softness and silkiness. It drapes well in its new incarnation and so adapts itself to the new modes. Flecked and chine serges are other novel aspects of an old friend.



can go through these days in one delirious whirl of chiffons, drifting from one opening to another and exhausting her adjectives at each halting place.

The imported models are a drain upon

any vocabulary this season. One save "exquisite, lovely, beautiful, dainty, chic, smart." Then one begins again and emart." Then one begins again and reselves lapse into enthusiasm and declare that there was never before in Paris such an embarrassment of riches to puzzle the oul of a conscientious buyer; that the Parisian dressmakers have never before

Some of the Paris houses have literally ed all their previous records," said



me man who brings home more elaborate And, too, there are several new dressmakers who have suddenly made remark able bids for high standing. Here is a name I'd like to have you note. ago I came home with gowns made by an unknown man, and I said. This Paquin s a wonder. Watch him.' Every one sughed at me then. Now this year has brought out several makers in whose future I believe. Watch them

The frock to which was attached the name especially emphasized by the buyer was of heavy, coarse foru crash with apus of deep red silk and trimming beavy ceru lace, and its originality justified with in its sponsor. The mingling of



tnurend feature of the new so tout other of a foring line of all the constituentions, and charle

directly strengthed was an exception wie frach with tucks, become

nets have much to recommend them. Not only are they wonderfully beautiful, but they furnish their own ornamentation; and, although they, too, may be teased into additional beauty by handwork, they do not absolutely need such treatment. Given graceful lines and a picturesque general design, one of these flower-strews

with very little trimming of any With shirred skirt, decolinté bodice find tohed with tarthe or fiche, and flowing sleeves, those fluwered froths are as astic-

factory for summer evening mear as any-

the princed note. They haven't the langui-ful sheep of the sile trouscoulde not the cloud-like softman of the chillions, but

they mear much better than either and

scattered over with faint layed bluesume.

The same arguments urged in favor of the printed mete apply to the plain mate They are, assequentionality the most stars-

has brought out many new nets, two, with menium ranging from exaggerated contro-

detail set is periops the seed property

and strikes the facts of extractic simplicity and show not printer it through intrients handwork, sithrough the ficies of pinis and offerd with desired have and all the details of the freck should be made by

dotted set fracis stores to the ince-

to make dumply

Particular attention should be paid to

bust in front. Upon this foundation were laid puffings of the mousseline, each puff sheer faurice may make a successful three inches wide. These puffings followed the lines of the foundation, clinging closely to the shoulders and back. Between the puffs ran tiny ruchings of pompadour ribbons whose white ground was flowered in tiny pink and white blasoms. Similar ruching bordered the fichu and its long scarf ends in

> This idea might be carried out in any coloring and could easily be made at home, at a very slight expense, although the cost of the model was appalling. With the fichu scarf went a picture hat of flapping white chip, trimmed in blue mouse

pale blue silk mousseline instead of lingerie.

A plain lining of the mousseline was first

fitted carefully over the shoulders, droop-

and little pink roses. While mousselines and other sheer materials are the topic, one should notice the other models sketched for the large out. They all belong to the disphenous class and are not too formidable to be easily copied. All show the skirt fulness which is so noticeable in the best of the new



the of fined batiete is trimmed with The emirendering this engent are the love-

York's most fashionable milliners, was in as the lightest shade seen in the purple and red fuchsia. This is made over white chiffon upon a

foundation of white liberty satin and is ing well over the sleeve, lying flat around trimmed with inset lace, dyed to the color of the mousseline. From the centres of lace medallions hang little pendant clusters the back and running down in a V to the of fuchsias and the same flowers are introduced in a coreage spray. A high girdle



of fuctions purple measured to long each ands finished with clusters of the flowers.

Dyed lace in the fine meshes for use with clust materials is evidently well liked in Farie and many whole fraction are made of it A particularly charming one shows among the group of medicial angely referred to be in imitation Chantilly of a paic effecty group made over white and trimmed with passengularle and pendant come of glitter.

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Let to the imagine that patienter are out
of clair, as was prophesical last season.

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loose three-quarter coat is worn, but it has been found unbecoming to the average woman, and the full sacque coatees are apparently first favorites, though every woman wants, in addition, a long, loose

The coatees are most enticing garments, particularly in white, and it will be a hardheaded woman who resists their allurements. To be effective they are not necesarily very expensive, and this summer we should surely be spared the spectacle of heavy dark coats over airy frocks. The picturesque summer wrap has been a problem in past seasons, but it seems to

A trifle more serviceable than the white coatees are similar garments of pongee in the light shades, preferably in its natural color, and cloth or canvas coatees in pale

beige, gray, butter color, &c. Even the covert coats are taking on unconventional friskiness. Tailors protest against it, and say with the canons of eternal fitness to back them, that the covert cost should be as it has always been, uncompromisingly severe; but the fact remains that none of the season's sloeves, not even the shirtwaist sleeves, will go into the reguler covert coat sleeve without hope musing, and if the cost is to be practicable this summer it must accommodate itself to conditions

tion covert mat with severe sineves beiling elightly below the elbow, but one sea



vert must electric full into a enterland met, seeis copie of covert cloth with long

collectors and revers here given

Very fine lingerie blouses enriched with handwork are eminently desirable. These are usually in all white, but certain importers are offering blouses of sheerest batiste daintily tucked by hand and worked n Russian cross-stitch embroidery of red and blue upon collars, cuffs and front plaits.

ality. Blouses of very sheer white silk or white silk voilé elaborately tucked and ornamented with lace, open-work attehes, or embroidery are also considered exceedingly chic for general wear, and Liberty satin is not abandoned.

Such a blouse has considerable individu-

White is still the favorite for the separate blouse, but some remarkably pretty models are shown in light blue and in the new art rose. One blouse among those in the sketches shown here is of pale blue silk mousseline with self-shirrings and bands of velvet ribbon for its only trimming. Lace blouses are popular, and for ordinary wear, blouse of foulard, chiefly in white ground with small dots of black or color, is well liked. Most of the fancy blouses fasten in the back, but others button frankly down the front centre plait, with jewelled buttons

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Chemitle bees and butterflies are applied to cloth with good effect.

All-over embroidered morning orege to the latest concession to the rage for elaboration, and, as the embroidery is done to duil silk, it does not detract from the ides of deep mourning.

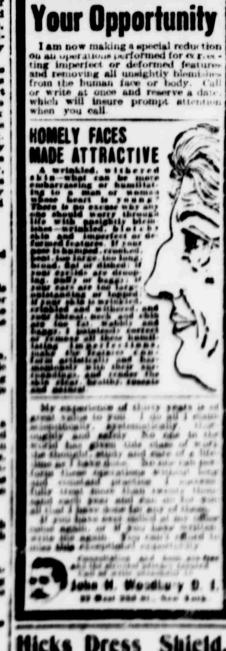
The lace slipper is one of the latest fado, and brides are having their slippers made of lace to match the lace upon their wedding gower, and trimmed in resetter of arange blossome and tuile.

The stiff rithers or reivet cockede to a favorite trimming for the tallor hat, and the easier carried in famors for use upon more elaborate hate. For example, a flat wheel of forgetanistic exercising a flat shed of gardenias or rouse, and the construct supports the lifted halform as would a cockede.

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Hicks Dress Shield.

